

May—June

2014

## Monthly Report



# City of Ridgecrest

### Budget Hearings:

- Goals
- Factors
- Principles
- Challenges
- Priorities

## Budget Hearings

The City Council conducted hearings from May 27th through May 29th to discuss the Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget. Public comment and discussions continued at the next regular council meeting held on June 4, 2014. Following the discussions, the budget was adopted.

The Budget Presentation included:

- Overview of the Budget
- Review of Goals, Perspective, Process, Factors, Observations, Principles, Conditions, Controls, Considerations, Challenges, & Priorities.



*Beautiful Desert Landscape*

- Presentation of Budget by FD
- CC Action

### Budget Goals

1. Protect core services for citizens
2. Acknowledge impact of the Economic downturn
3. Make difficult but necessary decisions for future fiscal stability
4. Increase Transparency – L & TAB Reporting
5. Reduce reliance of one-time funds
6. Increase general fund reserves
7. Position the City for future opportunities
8. Decrease liability

### Factors

- ◆ General Fund – revenues for general operations & administration
- ◆ Special Revenue Funds – special sources with special purposes
- ◆ Enterprise funds – business operations with user charges or special sources
- ◆ Internal Service Funds – transactions within the City

### Principles

- ◇ Sufficiently fund core operations
- ◇ Maintain a commitment to a minimal LOS
- ◇ Consider financial health of the City
- ◇ Use partnerships where feasible
- ◇ Deal with short-term and long-term needs
- ◇ Reduce overall expenditures significantly to live within our means

### Principles (cont'd)

- ◇ Protect core services as much as possible
- ◇ Minimize impacts on taxpayers
- ◇ Minimize use of account balances
- ◇ Minimize loss of active full-time employees through attrition & entry level hiring

### Challenges

- ◆ No L \$ Contingency - \$ 2M
- ◆ TAB \$ Allocations
- ◆ KC RDA \$ Loss - \$882k (\$294k/yr. for 3 years)
- ◆ RDA ROPS and Pass-through \$ & Uncertainty
- ◆ Rebuild Reserve
- ◆ Strategic Plan Implementation \$
- ◆ Staffing for LOS
- ◆ Debt Service Loads
- ◆ Employee Benefit Liability
- ◆ Under funded Risk liability
- ◆ Potential Unbudgeted Obligations

### Priorities - General - Hierarchy of Needs Specific -

- ◇ Public Safety - Police
- ◇ Infrastructure – Public Works
- ◇ Sustainable Economic Growth
- ◇ Community Quality of Life - Leadership & Administration

## *City Clerk & Risk Management*

The City Clerk has a statutory duty to record the official minutes of all City Council meetings; maintain original resolutions and ordinances, and is the custodian of the City seal. Additionally, she is the chief election officer for municipal elections. The City Clerk's office is the depository for all official documents and records. The Clerk assists and supports the public and City departments by making available the records necessary for the City to advance its administrative, legal and legislative functions. The City Clerk encourages the use of cost-saving/productivity improving record management techniques throughout the City. The City Clerk prepares all necessary documents for public hearings, posts notices and copies of ordinances as required by law and maintains and updates the Municipal Code.

City Clerk  
100 W California Ave  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555  
Phone: 760-499-5002  
Fax: 760-499-1500  
Email: [rford@ridgecrest-ca.gov](mailto:rford@ridgecrest-ca.gov)

June 3, 2014 the City Clerk's office assisted Kern County with the State Gubernatorial Primary Election. While the City had no direct measure on the ballot, there were some items which will have a direct effect on this community including the governor candidate, senator, and assembly member. A full listing of the results of the election are available at the Kern County Elections website at <http://elections.co.kern.ca.us/Elections/results/jun14/default.htm>

The General Municipal Election is scheduled for Tuesday, November 4, 2014. City of Ridgecrest has 1 Mayor and 2 Council Members seats on the ballot for election. The office has been actively putting together the Candidate Handbooks and other required information including FPPC manuals, Petitions, and Ballot Statement forms.

Persons interested in running as a candidate for this election will be able to pick up packets beginning July 14. These packets must be completed and returned by close of business on August 4. Each candidate will be required to circulate a petition and gather a maximum of 20 signatures supporting their candidacy, complete candidate information forms, file a candidate FPPC Form 700, and there is a \$25.00 filing fee due when the packets are submitted to the City Clerk. Petitions will be forwarded to the Kern County Elections office for signature verifications and once confirmation has been received the candidate will be notified of their eligibility.



Candidates must be 18 years of age, residents of the City of Ridgecrest, and a registered voter, along with a few other requirements to apply. Candidate hopefuls are encouraged to call the City Clerk for more information at (760) 499-5002.



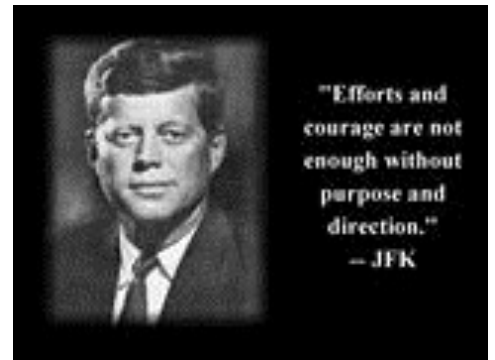
## *City Clerk & Risk Management*

City received a partial reimbursement for sports association and concession equipment which was lost to the fire. These funds will be reimbursed to the association upon a final accounting of the funding.



Parks division purchased and installed a temporary concession trailer and portable restrooms at the location to accommodate event patrons during the interim while plans are underway to replace the destroyed facility with a more permanent structure.

It is anticipated that a portion of the Tax Allocation Bond (TAB) allocation will be combined with insurance receipts to assist with replacing the concession stand and restrooms in the near future.



### **Claims Against The City**

City Clerk periodically receives claims against the City for damages. City Clerk's office has received and processed the following claims in 2014

- Claim No. 14-01—Smith, L.
- Claim No. 14-02—Corbin, K.
- Claim No. 14-03—Burch, A. & Gonzalez, A.
- Claim No. 14-04—21st Century Insurance
- Claim No. 14-05—Smith, S. and Smith, S.
- Claim No. 14-06—Calvi, J.
- Claim No. 14-07—Boske, G.
- Claim No. 14-08—Cooper, R.
- Claim No. 14-09—Steinmetz, J.

With the exception of Claim Nos. 14-07, 14-08, and 14-09 all other claims have been closed either by denial or payment to the claimant.



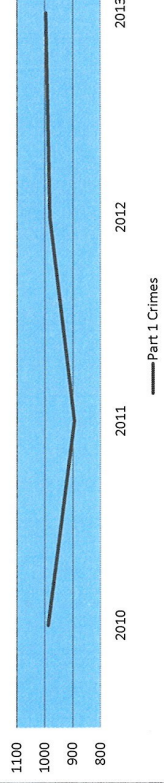
# Ridgecrest Police Department Statistics

Apr 2014

## Crime

	Monthly Comparison			Year to Date		
	Apr 13	Apr 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
<b>Violent Crime</b>	30	30	0%	115	123	7%
Murder	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Rape	2	0	-100%	3	1	-67%
Robbery	1	0	-100%	6	3	-50%
Assault	27	30	11%	106	119	12%
<b>Property Crime</b>	47	39	-17%	219	144	-34%
Burglary	12	11	-8%	79	43	-46%
Larceny	30	22	-27%	120	86	-28%
Auto Theft	5	5	0%	15	14	-7%
Arson	0	1	100%	5	1	-80%
<b>Part 1 Crimes</b>	77	69	-10%	330	268	-19%

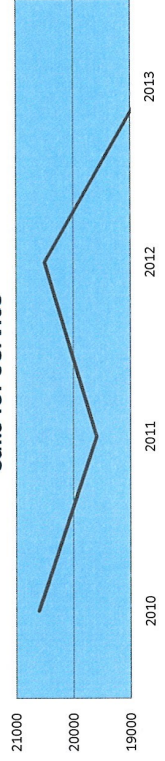
## Part 1 Crimes



## Performance Measures

	Monthly Comparison			Year to Date		
	Apr 13	Apr 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
<b>Patrol Activity</b>	2652	2544	-4%	10339	9880	-4%
Total Incidents	1667	1434	-14%	6488	5582	-14%
Calls for Service	985	1110	13%	3851	4298	12%
Officer Initiated Incidents	347	501	44%	1219	1792	47%
Traffic Stops	638	609	-5%	2632	2506	-5%
<b>Other OIA Incidents</b>						
Reports Taken	388	377	-3%	1468	1393	-5%
Total Arrests	217	244	12%	806	858	6%
Felony Arrests	55	51	-7%	228	199	-13%
Juvenile Arrests	21	13	-38%	73	59	-19%
Drug Related	30	63	110%	138	169	22%

## Calls for Service



## Personnel

	Monthly Comparison			Year to Date		
	Apr 13	Apr 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
<b>Total</b>	49	49	0%	171	171	0%
Sworn	32	32	0%	117	117	0%
Professional Staff	17	17	0%	54	54	0%
<b>Vacant Positions</b>						
Allocated	49	49	0%	171	171	0%
Filled	32	32	0%	117	117	0%
Vacant	17	17	0%	54	54	0%

## Investigation

	Monthly Comparison			Year to Date		
	Apr 13	Apr 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
<b>News Cases</b>	333	369	11%	1402	1114	-21%
Cleared DA or Other	126	130	3%	755	354	-53%
Arrests	19	28	47%	92	97	5%
Inactivated	76	58	-24%	267	226	-15%
Active	318	86	-73%	1691	378	-78%

## K-9 Deploy

	Monthly Comparison			Year to Date		
	Apr 13	Apr 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
<b>Deployments</b>	8	5	-38%	18	16	-11%
Apprehensions	0	0	0%	1	2	100%
Building Searches	4	0	-100%	6	2	-67%
Vehicle Searches	3	2	-33%	7	8	14%
Drug Finds	2	0	-100%	5	4	-20%

## Traffic

	Monthly Comparison			Year to Date		
	Apr 13	Apr 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
<b>Citations</b>	110	108	-2%	239	278	16%
Moving	3	4	33%	28	34	21%
Non-Moving	14	6	-57%	49	40	-18%
RMC Violation	21	19	-10%	68	65	-4%
Collisions	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Fatal	2	9	350%	11	16	45%
Injury	17	9	-47%	52	47	-10%
Non-Injury	2	1	-50%	5	2	-60%
DUI Related						

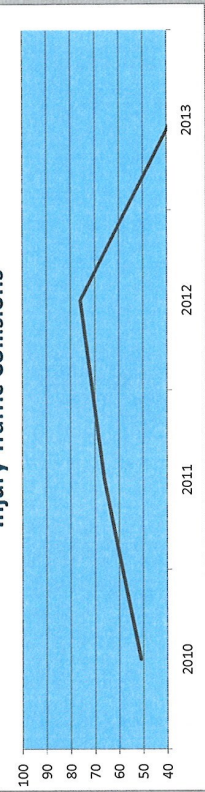
## Top 5 Collision Intersections YTD

1. E. Ridgecrest Blvd./Broadway Ave.
2. S. Sunland St./E. Debra Ave.
3. S. China Lake Blvd./Church Ave.
4. W. Vicki Ave./Luna St.
5. S. Norma St./Petris Ave.

## Top 5 PCFs YTD

1. Failure to yield 21801 (a)
2. Unsafe turning movement
3. Failure to stop at red light
4. Failure to stop at stop sign
5. Failure to yield 21802 (a)

## Injury Traffic Collisions





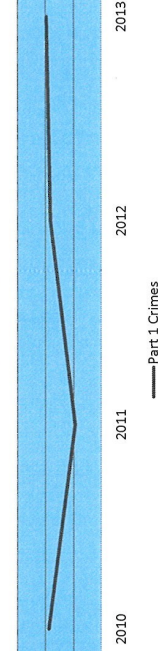
# Ridgecrest Police Department Statistics

May 2014

## Crime

	Monthly Comparison			Year to Date		
	May 13	May 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
<b>Violent Crime</b>	48	22	-54%	163	145	-11%
Murder	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Rape	3	0	-100%	6	1	-83%
Robbery	1	2	100%	7	5	-29%
Assault	44	20	-55%	150	139	-7%
<b>Property Crime</b>	44	37	-16%	263	181	-31%
Burglary	17	7	-59%	96	50	-48%
Larceny	22	24	9%	142	110	-23%
Auto Theft	4	5	25%	19	19	0%
Arson	1	1	0%	6	2	-67%
<b>Part 1 Crimes</b>	91	59	-35%	421	327	-22%

## Part 1 Crimes



## Personnel

	Monthly Comparison			Year to Date		
	May 13	May 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
<b>Total</b>	49	49	0%	1760	1439	-18%
Sworn	32	32	0%	1160	964	-17%
Professional Staff	17	17	0%	599	475	-20%
<b>Vacant Positions</b>	0	0	0%	23	27	17%

## Investigation

	Monthly Comparison			Year to Date		
	May 13	May 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
<b>News Cases</b>	358	325	-9%	1760	1439	-18%
Cleared DA or Other	16	110	588%	771	464	-40%
Arrests	14	16	14%	106	113	7%
Inactive	20	45	125%	287	271	-6%
Active	384	62	-84%	2075	440	-79%

## K-9 Deploy

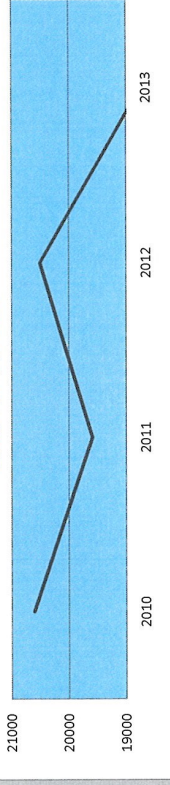
	Monthly Comparison			Year to Date		
	May 13	May 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
<b>Deployments</b>	4	4	0%	22	20	-9%
Apprehensions	0	0	0%	1	2	100%
Building Searches	2	0	-100%	8	2	-75%
Vehicle Searches	0	1	100%	7	9	29%
Drug Finds	0	0	0%	5	4	-20%

## Performance Measures

	Monthly Comparison			Year to Date		
	May 13	May 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
<b>Patrol Activity</b>	2737	2747	0%	13076	12627	-3%
Total Incidents	1597	1641	3%	8086	7223	-11%
Calls for Service	1140	1106	-3%	4991	5404	8%
Officer Initiated Incidents	417	501	20%	1636	2293	40%
Traffic Stops	723	605	-16%	3355	3111	-7%

	Monthly Comparison			Year to Date		
	May 13	May 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
<b>Reports Taken</b>	386	383	-1%	1854	1776	-4%
Total Arrests	239	211	-12%	1045	1069	2%
Felony Arrests	64	47	-27%	292	246	-16%
Juvenile Arrests	32	16	-50%	105	75	-29%
Drug Related	27	40	48%	165	209	27%

## Calls for Service



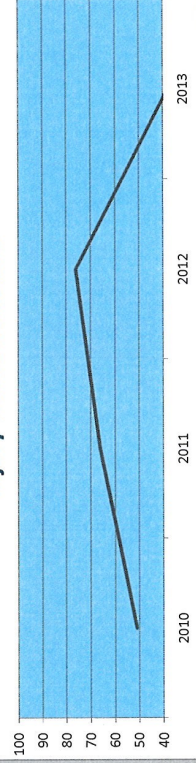
## Traffic

	Monthly Comparison			Year to Date		
	May 13	May 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
<b>Citations</b>	56	83	48%	295	361	22%
Moving	13	6	-54%	41	40	-2%
Non-Moving	17	5	-71%	66	45	-32%
RMC Violation	29	22	-24%	97	87	-10%
<b>Collisions</b>	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Fatal	1	8	700%	12	24	100%
Injury	28	11	-61%	80	58	-28%
Non-Injury	0	3	300%	5	5	0%
DUI Related	0	0	0%	0	0	0%

**Top 4 Collision Intersections YTD**  
 1. E. Ridgecrest Blvd./S. China Lake Blvd.  
 2. W. Drummond Ave./N. Norma St.  
 3. N. Norma St./W. Las Flores Ave.  
 4. E. French Ave./La Mirage

**Top 4 PCFs YTD**  
 1. Failure to yield 22/107  
 2. Unsafe turning movement  
 3. Fail to stop at red light  
 4. Fail to yield 21/801 (a)

## Injury Traffic Collisions







## *Engineering Department*



The City of Ridgecrest held a Ground Breaking Ceremony for the West Ridgecrest Boulevard Project on May 21, 2014 with the Notice to Proceed with Construction issued on May 19, 2014. Construction began on May 27, 2014 between Downs Avenue and Mahan Avenue. With all of the active construction projects that are happening in our community right now, the City of Ridgecrest has been posting on a weekly basis on the City's Website ([www.ci.ridgecrest.ca.us](http://www.ci.ridgecrest.ca.us)) the Current Construction Progress. We would encourage all residents to visit the site to see the progress that the City of Ridgecrest is making in the way of projects this summer.

The Engineering Department has also sent out Request for Proposals for two new projects that the City received funds for from the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program (CMAQ) and the Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP). CMAQ will build two new roads from Warner Street from Drummond Avenue to West Howell Avenue and Graaf Avenue from Sierra View Avenue to Norma Street to help with air quality and RSTP will be road rehabilitation from Bowman Avenue to College Heights Avenue.

The Engineering Department has also taken on two projects that will help with Sign Inventory for Retro-reflectivity to meet federal mandates by January 2015 and also have contracted with a consulting firm that will be doing the video surveillance and hydro-flushing of the sewer system.

Last but not least, the City of Ridgecrest has submitted an Active Transportation Plan which included projects all related to Safe Routes to Schools.

# Know the Signs in a Work Zone!

## Two-Way Traffic

Two-way traffic is traveling on a roadway that may be one-way in normal conditions. Be alert for oncoming traffic.



W6-3

## Lanes Divide

Be prepared for lanes to divide.



## Flagger Ahead

Flagger ahead directing traffic. Be prepared to stop.



C9A (CA)

## Right Lane Ends

Lanes merge ahead. Be prepared to move out of the closed lane.



W4-2

## Truck Crossing

Be alert for construction vehicles unexpectedly entering or exiting roadway.



W8-6

## Detour Ahead

Be prepared to take an alternate route marked by detour signs.



W20-2



## Wastewater Department

- ⇒ The City of Ridgecrest WWTF operated within design and compliance directives issued under Board Order No. 6-00-56.
- ⇒ The Department responded to (4) requests for service, (3) were homeowner lateral related and the other request was for an odor complaint both of which were resolved by the department.
- ⇒ The Department as compliance with SSMP performed line maintenance on 6,660 ft. of main line collection system.
- ⇒ The Reclamation Department reclaimed 6.55 million gallons of secondary effluent for use as fodder crop irrigation.
- ⇒ The Kern County Air Quality performed annual inspection on WWTF Stand-by generator.

## Transit

In May & June, *ridgerunner* transit has been working on new Title VI compliance mandates and has attended several trainings and CalAct conference training to assist us in the completion of these new mandates.

The City of Ridgecrest submitted its 5311 grant for Fiscal Year 13-14 (for \$111,643.00) to Cal Trans for approval in May 2014.

*Ridgerunner* Transit is excited to announce that we will begin construction of our new maintenance garage/dispatch offices at the City Corporation Yard later in 2014.

On June 4, 2014, Council approved the purchase of property in Inyokern for constructing a Transit Hub Station. The Hub station will act as a transfer point for our local *ridgerunner* to connect with non-local transportation providers, such as Eastern Sierra Transit Authority (ESTA) as well as with Kern Regional Transit.

### Safety Tips from your transportation division:

Today, we drive safer cars on safer roads; decades of advertisements and public information campaigns have made most of us safer drivers. As a result, the U.S. logged the lowest accident fatality rate ever recorded in 2008 [source: NHTSA]. Despite this progress, unfortunately, the number of auto accidents and fatalities nationwide is still quite staggering: In 2008, there were almost 6 million car accidents in the U.S., leading to more than 37,000 deaths. What's more, automobile accidents are the leading cause of death for people between the ages of 3 and 34 in this country. Improvements in technology will continue to help bring those numbers down, but the bottom line remains that most car accidents are the result of human error. The best way to reduce the risk of being involved in an accident is to practice safe driving behaviors. Whether you are just learning to drive or you have been behind the wheel for decades, it is a good idea to review some basic rules for safe driving.

Here are 10 driving tips that will help bring you and your passengers home unharmed.

Keep Your Vehicle Safe	Practice Defensive Driving
Watch Out for the Other Guy	Don't Follow Too Closely
Be Extra Careful in Bad Weather	Wear Your Seat Belt
Don't Drive Drowsy	Avoid Distractions
Don't Speed	Don't Drive Drunk

Drive safe and enjoy the warm summer!

## *Building Department*

### Energy Efficiency News

I have attended several meetings with PG&E, SCE and our fellow Kern County city representatives as well as other cities around the state of California. I get a chance to hear their ideas of how they have brought on the reduction of electricity, gas and water in their communities through several funding sources. I have not yet brought it up to our city officials because I am 90% sure the general public would frown on loans to update our municipal buildings to become more energy efficient without the hard facts of the return on investment. So I am still looking for ways to reduce our GHG use without loans.

In the last 3 months SCE had a direct install program that allowed small businesses , including our Animal Shelter and Senior Center to get upgraded lighting for up to \$15,000.00 per building. To qualify they just had to generate no more than 200 KW/month.

Unfortunately, for other SCE customers rates will be going up again so now is the time to take advantage of the energy upgrade rebates that SCE is offering through their website. All you have to do is contact a contractor SCE recommends to do an Energy Audit on your home. If you do any or all of their recommendations they will give you up to \$4500.00 in rebates or incentives for the new equipment that is installed AND your electric bill will be lower, it could be a win/win situation.

If you have any suggestions on how we can lower our city owned buildings electric and/or gas consumption please let me know. Ridgecrest as a whole is required to lower our greenhouse gas emissions by 20% by the year 2020. Everyone needs to help as much as possible.

## *Planning Department*

### Median Artwork Planned For China Lake Blvd.

Cal Trans has proposed constructing a raised median on China Lake Blvd. between Ridgecrest Blvd. and Inyokern Road. Implementation of this project is anticipated to begin as soon as Spring, 2015. This 1.5 mile section of State Route 178 carries far and away the highest traffic volumes within the City and serves numerous businesses and civic activities. Cal Trans has agreed to design 18 locations for median artwork which the City shall oversee.

The Planning Commission recognizes the beneficial effects of median artwork within our community and encourages these creations to enhance and reflect the aesthetic, environmental, scenic, historic and/or cultural values of the City of Ridgecrest and the Indian Wells Valley.

The Planning Commission believes that the China Lake Blvd. Median Art Program should be all inclusive by collaborating with local residents and organizations.

On July 8th the Planning Commission shall hold a Special Meeting to solicit input from the public regarding how the process to establish artwork criteria shall be administered. Discussion items shall include how the organization or individual submitting the artwork shall be selected, how the criteria for evaluating the artwork shall be established, how long each piece of artwork will remain within the median and where the artwork will be located after being displayed within the median. Everyone interested in the proposed Median Art Program for China Lake Blvd. is welcome and encouraged to attend.

